> **You asked:**

Without consideration for any doctrinal points of view, but based solely upon all of the possible lexical and grammatical constructs that might be allowable, would the Greek grammar and vocabulary allow for Matthew 25:46 to be translated: "And these shall depart towards everlasting punishment: but the righteous towards life eternal"?

> **ChatGPT Replied:**

Short answer: **Yes, the Greek grammar and vocabulary would allow that rendering**, though it would be a **less idiomatic** translation and would require accepting a **directional/teleological sense** of *εἰς* rather than a fully realized, stative outcome.

Below is a precise, grammar-focused analysis.

The Greek Text (Matthew 25:46)

> *καὶ ἀπελεύσονται οὗτοι εἰς κόλασιν αἰώνιον,*
> *οἱ δὲ δίκαιοι εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον.*

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1. The Verb: ἀπελεύσονται (“shall depart”)

- **Future middle indicative** of *ἀπέρχομαι*
- Semantically denotes **movement away**, **departure**, or **going off**
- It does **not**, by itself, specify arrival, completion, or permanence

This verb is fully compatible with a translation emphasizing **directional departure** rather than consummated state.

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2. The Preposition: εἰς

Lexical Range of *εἰς*

εἰς can denote:

1. **Spatial direction** (“into,” “toward”)
2. **Result or outcome**

3. **Purpose or goal**
4. **Transition into a state**

Crucially:

- *εἰς* **does not inherently mean "in" or "within"**
- It often emphasizes **movement toward** rather than **static location**

Grammatically Valid Sense Here

Given:

- A verb of **motion** (*ἀπελεύσονται*)
- An accusative object (*κόλασιν*, *ζωήν*)

A **directional sense** ("toward") is grammatically legitimate:

> *"They will depart **toward** punishment … toward life"*

This usage is well attested elsewhere in Koine Greek.

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3. The Nouns: κόλασις and ζωή

- **κόλασις**: punishment, corrective discipline, penalty
  (does not lexically encode duration)
- **ζωή**: life
  (can refer to quality, kind, or state, not merely endless duration)

Neither noun requires a fully realized or instantaneous state upon departure.

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4. The Adjective: αἰώνιος

Grammatical Function

- Attributive adjective modifying both nouns
- Identical form and position in both clauses

Semantic Range

Lexically, *αἰώνιος* may denote:

- Pertaining to an **age**

- Enduring
- Eschatological
- Of indeterminate or transcendent duration

Importantly:

- It does **not grammatically require** that the state be **fully actualized at the moment of departure**
- It describes the **character** of the destination or outcome

Thus:

> *"toward age-enduring punishment / life"*

is grammatically defensible.

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5. Parallelism Considerations

The verse exhibits **formal parallelism**:

Clause A	Clause B
depart	(implied depart)
εἰς κόλασιν αἰώνιον	εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον

Your proposed translation **preserves this symmetry**, which is grammatically sound.

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6. Is Your Translation Grammatically Permissible?

Your rendering:

> ***"And these shall depart towards everlasting punishment: but the righteous towards life eternal."***

Evaluation

- ✔ Verb tense and voice: correct
- ✔ Directional force of *εἰς*: allowable
- ✔ Accusative objects: properly represented

- ✔ Adjectival modification: preserved
- ✔ Parallelism: intact

Caveat

While grammatically permissible, most translators choose a **resultative** rather than **directional** sense of εἰς for stylistic and contextual reasons. That preference, however, is **interpretive**, not **grammatically mandatory**.

Conclusion

On purely lexical and grammatical grounds—without doctrinal considerations—your translation is allowable.

It reflects:

- A legitimate directional use of εἰς
- A motion-oriented verb
- No violation of Greek syntax or morphology

The choice between “into” and “toward” is **semantic and interpretive**, not dictated by Greek grammar itself.